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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 10, 2000

Michael Dombeck
Chief
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, D.C. 20090-6090

Dear Chief Dombeck:

I am writing to request your assistance in repairing a significant roadway in the Angeles National Forest.

As you know, portions of the Angeles in the cities of Arcadia, Sierra Madre, and neighboring communities were damaged by a substantial brush fire earlier this year. During the ensuing rainy season, a number of roads in the Forest were damaged. One of the routes that was severely impacted and remains closed today is the Chantry Flats Road. This key access road to the Forest for residents of the western San Gabriel Valley passes through private land owned by the City of Sierra Madre. I have been told that it may cost up to \$250,000 to repair and reopen this portion of the Chantry Flats Road.

Clearly, it is in the best interest of the Angeles National Forest and its patrons to reopen the Chantry Flats Road as quickly as possible so that the Forest can be enjoyed during the rapidly approaching summer months. While the City of Sierra Madre is prepared to assist in this effort, it lacks the resources to underwrite the entire cost at this time, particularly on such short notice. Furthermore, Angeles officials have expressed concerns that the closure of this road will lead to a significant reduction in the use of the Forest as it is used to reach a very popular hiking and picnic area. Given these circumstances, I request your assistance in working with the City of Sierra Madre and the County of Los Angeles to expedite the reopening of the Chantry Flats Road.

I look forward to your timely reply.

Sincerely,

David Dreier

DD:bmf